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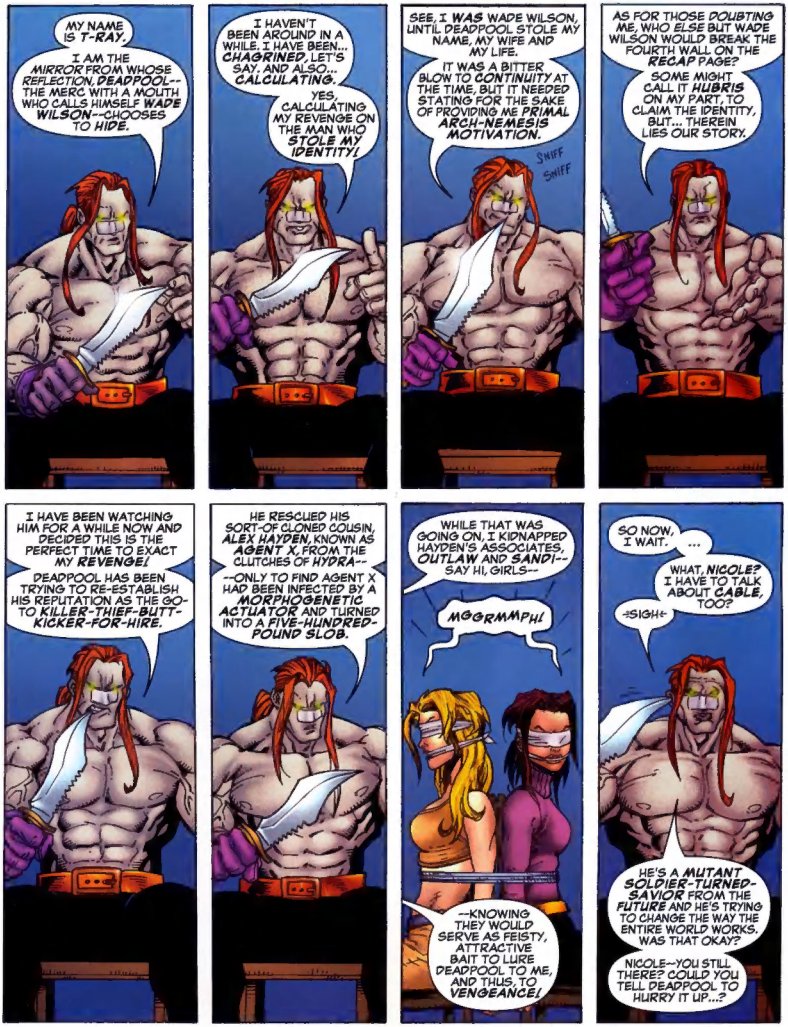

MY NAME IS T-RAY.
I AM THE MIRROR FROM WHOSE REFLECTION, DEADPOOL--THE MERC WITH A MOUTH WHO CALLS HIMSELF WADE WILSON--CHOOSES TO HIDE.
I HAVEN'T BEEN AROUND IN A WHILE. I HAVE BEEN... CHAGRINED, LET'S SAY. AND ALSO... CALCULATING.
YES. CALCULATING MY REVENGE ON THE MAN WHO STOLE MY IDENTITY!
SEE, I WAS WADE WILSON, UNTIL DEADPOOL STOLE MY NAME, MY WIFE AND MY LIFE.
IT WAS A BITTER BLOW TO CONTINUITY AT THE TIME, BUT IT NEEDED STATING FOR THE SAKE OF PROVIDING ME PRIMAL ARCH-NEMESIS MOTIVATION.
SNIFF SNIFF
AS FOR THOSE DOUBTING ME, WHO ELSE BUT WADE WILSON WOULD BREAK THE FOURTH WALL ON THE RECAP PAGE?
SOME MIGHT CALL IT HUBRIS ON MY PART, TO CLAIM THE IDENTITY, BUT... THEREIN LIES OUR STORY.
I HAVE BEEN WATCHING HIM FOR A WHILE NOW AND DECIDED THIS IS THE PERFECT TIME TO EXACT MY REVENGE!
DEADPOOL HAS BEEN TRYING TO RE-ESTABLISH HIS REPUTATION AS THE GO-TO ANTI-THIEF-BUTT-KICKER-FOR-HIRE.
HE RESCUED HIS SORTA-OF CLONED COUSIN, ALEX HAYDEN, KNOWN AS AGENT X, FROM THE CLUTCHES OF HYDRA--
--ONLY TO FIND AGENT X HAD BEEN INFECTED BY A MORPHOGENETIC ACTUATOR AND TURNED INTO A FIVE-HUNDRED-POUND SLOB.
WHILE THAT WAS GOING ON, I KIDNAPPED HAYDEN'S ASSOCIATES, OUTLAW AND SANDI--SAY HI, GIRLS--
MGGRMMPH!
--KNOWING THEY WOULD SERVE AS FEISTY, ATTRACTIVE BAIT TO LURE DEADPOOL TO ME, AND THUS, TO VENGEANCE!
SO NOW, I WAIT.
...
WHAT, NICOLE? I HAVE TO TALK ABOUT CABLE, TOO?
-SIGH-
HE'S A MUTANT SOLDIER-TURNED-SAVIOR FROM THE FUTURE AND HE'S TRYING TO CHANGE THE WAY THE ENTIRE WORLD WORKS. WAS THAT OKAY?
NICOLE--YOU STILL THERE? COULD YOU TELL DEADPOOL TO HURRY IT UP...?

AHA--YOU--I FORGET YOUR NAME--THE BARTENDER ALWAYS KNOWS EVERYTHING.
I CAN'T TALK, WADE--IT'S AGAINST UNION RULES.
TALK OR THE BOTTLE GETS IT.
YOU WOULDN'T.
KAPOW!
NOOOO
WHICH D'YOU THINK'LL HAPPEN FIRST...I RUN OUT OF BULLETS...
...OR YOU RUN OUT OF BOTTLES...?
TELL HIM!

BOOBY TRAPS? T-RAY LYING IN WAIT? DOUBTFUL.
HE WANTS THE FULL DEADPOOL MONTY. ENGORGED WITH VIRILE VEHEMENCE AND VERBAL VENOM.
LET'S ACCOMMODATE THE CRAZY MAN...
KRASH!
AHA! YOU WANTED ME--
--YOU GOT...
...ME...
AAAYEEE!
SORRY--OKAY--ONE FARM OVER... OKAY...SORRY AGAIN...
^%$#@!*&^%$#@X*&^%$?+-(@&!*$

THERE ARE SERIOUS MOVEMENTS IN OVER TWENTY COUNTRIES TO DRAFT CABLE TO--VERBATIM--
--"DO FOR US WHAT HE DID FOR RUMEKISTAN."
OVER TWENTY?
UNLESS SOMETHING VERY UNEXPECTED AND VERY DRASTIC HAPPENS...
...IT LOOKS LIKE CHIEF OF STAFF IRENE MERRYWEATHER IS GOING TO BE BUSIER, MORE HARRIED AND CRANKIER THAN EVER!
WHERE'S A WORLD-DEVOURING ALIEN WHEN YOU NEED ONE?
THERE'S JUST NO WAY...NO WAY YOU COULD HAVE EVER SOLD ME ON CABLE SUCCEEDING IN HIS RIDICULOUS GOAL OF CHANGING THE WAY THE WORLD WORKS.
I MEAN, SUPER HEROES FIGHTING EACH OTHER, KILLING EACH OTHER, LOCKING EACH OTHER IN PRISON, SETTING UP SUPERHUMAN MILITARY SQUADRONS IN EVERY STATE, TURNING SUPER-VILLAINS INTO TOYS...ALL THAT I CAN BUY...
...BUT TRYING TO CHANGE THE WAY WE THINK...WHAT WE DO... HOW WE ACT...WHY AND HOW WE GOVERN...ALL FOR THE BETTER... THAT WAS JUST PLAIN CRAZY... WASN'T IT...?
YEAH...NO ONE COULD BELIEVE IN ANYTHING SO... HOPEFUL...

WAKE UP, IMPOSTER!
ARRUMM MWAWR.
DON'T TRY TO TALK, IMPOSTER. YOUR JAW IS SHATTERED.
AND BEFORE YOUR HEALING FACTOR HAS A CHANCE TO MEND THE BROKEN BONES...
GURM.
...I BREAK IT AGAIN!
I'M GOING TO DO ALL THE TALKING THIS TIME.
HE FORGOT MY CAPTION BOXES.
AND DON'T THINK I FORGOT YOUR CAPTION BOXES, EITHER!

I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT THAT A LOT. THE TELLING OF YOUR SORDID TALE TURNED OUT TO BE NOTHING BUT A JOKE ON ME.
READERS SHOULD HAVE SAID, "WAIT, HE'S NOT WADE WILSON? WE ARE DROPPING OUR SUPPORT OF HIM!"
INSTEAD, THEY MULLED IT OVER LIKE FETID SPICED TEA. "HE KILLED A MAN? HE STOLE HIS NAME AND HIS WIFE?"
"WELL, WE DON'T CARE, AS LONG AS HE'S FUNNY!"
YOU DO KNOW IT'S GOING TO TAKE FOREVER TO CUT THROUGH THE DUCT TAPE WITH THAT LITTLE ITTY-BITTY KNIFE...
MMM-HMM
SO, SCREW IT!
SHREPPP!

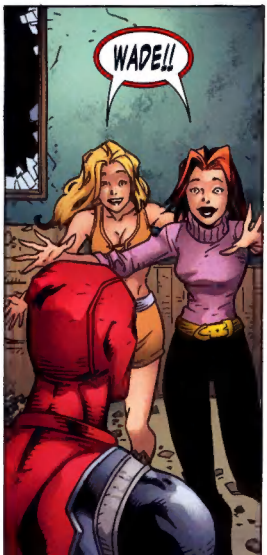
YOU KNOW, T--I'M A LITTLE TIRED OF EVERYONE'S MOANING AND GROANING ABOUT HOW ROUGH THEY'VE HAD IT 'CAUSE IT TAKES AWAY FROM MY MOANING AND GROANING ABOUT HOW ROUGH I'VE HAD IT!
HERE I AM--
--TAKING CONTROL OF THE SITUATION--
--AS AN APT METAPHOR--
--FOR TAKING CONTROL OF MY LIFE--
--AND I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME--
--EVERYONE IN MY LIFE--
--GOT THEIR STATUS QUO DUCKS LINED UP NEAT IN A ROW!
KLANG
WHAT A LAME-O SOUND EFFECT!
LAST TIME, YOU HAD FANCY MAGIC SHIELDS AND WEIRD OLIVER STONE DREAMSCAPES ALL ON TILTED ANGLES WITH VERY DISCONCERTING JUMP-CUT EDITING!
IT GAVE ME QUITE A TUMMY-ACHE.

SILENCE YOURSELF!
YEAH, NOT LIKELY. FOR SHAME, RESORTING TO DUCT TAPE AND FARM-HOUSES...
WHERE'D THE MAGIC IN OUR RELATIONSHIP GO, T?
WHAT'S THAT--?
THERE IS NO MAGIC? WAS THERE EVER ANY MAGIC?
WHO CAN SAY FOR SURE, RIGHT? CONSIDERING BOTH OF US ARE SCREWED-IN-THE-HEAD, SELF-INDULGENT PSYCHO-PATHS!
OOOH, LOOK AT THAT--RIGHT ACROSS THE THROAT--GOTTA STING--
--BUT IT SHOULD BE OKAY, RIGHT?
YOU'RE ME. SO YOUR HEALING FACTOR WILL TAKE CARE OF THAT.
OH, WAIT...YOU DON'T HAVE A HEALING FACTOR?
WHY WOULD THAT BE--UNLESS YOU'RE NOT ME!

I DON'T KNOW...
...I WISH I HAD MY BLACK MAGICKS TO HELP ME DECIDE...
IMAGINE THAT.
I WONDER IF THIS PART OF MY TALE WAS TRUE, HOW MUCH ELSE WAS AS WELL...?
DRAT.
I THOUGHT YOU SLIT HIS THROAT?
PAPER CUT, REALLY.
I'M TRYING REALLY, REALLY HARD NOT TO KILL PEOPLE.
UNLESS I HAVE A REALLY, REALLY GOOD REASON.
OR I'M MAD.
OR JUST IN THE MOOD.
SAVING US WASN'T A GOOD ENOUGH REASON?!
HEY, I'M HERE, AIN'T I? WOMEN...
CAN I PLEASE FOCUS ON THE MAGIC-GUY WHO THINKS I WAS HIM EVEN THOUGH I WASN'T NOW... PLEASE...?

YOUR ARMOR MIGHT BE MADE OF BLACK MAGIC--
--BUT MY KATANA WAS FORGED BY THE SAME GUY WHO MADE THE ONE ON HEROES!
SFASHOW!
BETTER SOUND EFFECT?
TOTALLY.
SO, WHAT ARE YOU THINKING NOW? HERE I AM, MY STUDIES IN THE SUPERNATURAL ARTS CLEARLY NOT A FIGMENT OF MY IMAGINATION...
...AND YET YOU ADMIT TO YOUR OWN FRACTURED MEMORIES...
...SO HOW CAN YOU CALL ME A LIAR?
SHUCK!
WHAT ABOUT THAT SOUND EFFECT?
DIDN'T-- LIKE IT--

I REALLY DIDN'T WANT TO KILL ANYONE TODAY.


WADE!!

YOU'RE THE GREATEST!
LADIES--LADIES--PLENTY OF HUGS TO GO AROUND--MMPH--UHM... GIRLS...
...GAPING GUT WOUND OVER HERE...

HMPH. LOOK AT THAT.
I HATE MAGIC.
SVIK

AGENCY X
PRIVATE INVESTIGATIONS
CORPORATE AND
HOME SECURITY
MAYHEM ACCEPTABLE
ANYONE WANT MORE PIZZA ROLLS?
NO!
MORE FOR ME.
BREAKING NEWS
SO UNTIL ALEX CAN LOSE THE WEIGHT... WHICH AT THE RATE HE'S EATING, COULD BE NEVER--
--YOU'LL BE WORKING WITH US?
YUP. BOB TOO, IF PETS ARE ALLOWED.
DO I GET A TITLE?
DO I GET BUSINESS CARDS?
DO I GET USE OF THE CORPORATE JET?
NOPE.
MAYBE.
SOMETIMES.
DO WE EVER DO PRO BONO WORK?
YEAH-- WHY DO YOU ASK?
BECAUSE I MIGHT WANT TO BORROW THE JET...
--ALIEN CREATURE RAMPAGING ACROSS PROVIDENCE, THE SOUTH PACIFIC ISLAND HAVEN OF THE MESSIANIC SELF-STYLED SAVIOR KNOWN AS CABLE--

NEXT ISSUE: FRACTURED!

CABLE! THE X-MEN! BIG TROUBLE AND...BIGGER CHANCES! 'NUFF SAID!

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